

MARY MACKILLOP: WOMAN OF GOD

No	Image	Teacher Instruction	Text
1	Mary MacKillop		
2	Mary MacKillop		Mary MacKillop was a woman who believed that God loved her very much, and that God loved all people and all of creation.
3	Mary/nature/children		In 1906 Mary said: "God loves us all." So, how do you think Mary knew about God's love for all of us?
4	Flora		Well, it was her mother Flora who taught Mary to trust in God to provide whatever she needed in her life.
5	Kensington Chapel	<p>Stop the PowerPoint and have a discussion about this scenario. These questions might help you.</p> <p>Activity: record feelings on the whiteboard/poster.</p>	<p>Sometimes Mary needed peace – like when she was excluded from the Catholic Church – we call this being excommunicated. She was not allowed to have anything to do with the Church, not go to Mass; not receive Holy Communion; not even pray in the Church.</p> <p><i>Can you imagine what this would have been like for Mary who loved God and the Church so very much? Take a little time to remember when you were excluded from a group of friends or a game. How did that feel?</i></p>

6	Map of trip to Rome		<p>Sometimes Mary needed courage – like when she travelled to Rome to meet with the Pope. As head of the Catholic Church the Pope had to say “yes” to the Rule that the Sisters were to live by so that they could work with the poor and isolated people in Australia.</p>
7	Australia rock mountain		<p>Mary told the Pope that as an Australian she knew what kind of Sisters were needed in a country that was so different from other countries in the world, especially in Europe.</p>
8	Painting: Mary and rosary beads		<p>Mary often asked God for strength to speak the truth. Sometimes she needed to challenge people in authority, who wanted to control the Sisters. She said that by doing this it would cause the Sisters to live against the rule that they had promised to follow.</p>
9	Mary after her stroke		<p>In 1877 Mary said, “God give me the strength for what is necessary.” When Mary had her stroke in 1902 she required a lot of strength and courage to continue her work. I am sure she would have prayed these words many times.</p>

10	Typewriter	<p>Stop the PowerPoint and have a discussion about this scenario. These questions might help you.</p> <p>Activity: Write a prayer</p>	<p>Mary loved writing to the Sisters so she taught herself to write with her left hand. When she could no longer write she began to use a typewriter. Finally, she had the courage to ask another Sister to write for her. In times such as this, many of which were very difficult for Mary, she would have always turned to God for what she needed. She never stopped trusting in God's great love and goodness.</p> <p><i>When have you needed strength and courage? What special prayer do you use to ask God for the help to be strong and courageous?</i></p>
11	Poor area		<p>Throughout her life, Mary tried to show others how much God loved them. She was especially kind to people; always willing to forgive those who hurt her; spoke the truth and was always respectful and just. It did not matter to Mary what age, nationality, religion, rich or poor, clean or dirty, happy or sad, sick or healthy a person was, everyone was always welcome.</p>

12	School Children	<p>Stop the PowerPoint and have a discussion about this scenario.</p> <p>Activity: Organise a Role Play.</p>	<p>There is a story that is told about a Governor who wanted his grandson to go to Mary's school. Mary said the little boy was very welcome and sat him in a seat beside another little girl from the area. The Governor did not think this was right and that his grandson should have a special seat, on his own, at the front of the class, next to Mary's desk. Mary said everyone was equal and no one would have a special place on their own. You can see that Mary did live out her belief that everyone was equal.</p> <p><i>How do you treat others who are different from you? How would you like people to treat you if you were different from them?</i></p>
13	Bird, sky and water		<p>God was never far from Mary MacKillop's mind and heart. She could see God's presence in even the most ordinary events in everyday life. For Mary, God was the One who could be trusted to look after all of creation in great love.</p>
14	3 images of Mary		<p>Mary MacKillop is a great role model for each of us today. Our times and challenges are different from hers but she reminds us that we too can always turn to God, asking for strength, to say "thank you", to give praise to, as Mary said, "our good God."</p>

15	Words of the saying		Using Mary's words let us pray together: "Today God has been so good to me." <i>14/6/1874</i>
16	Mary MacKillop at Chapel door		<p>Your teacher has some activities for you to do to help you remember some of the things you have heard and to find out more about Mary MacKillop.</p> <p>Thank you for listening to a little bit about Mary MacKillop and her love for God.</p>

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